

Autism Forum February 6, 2015



topic of the day

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Outside Agencies

Fearful

Evidence Based
Practices

Legal Issues...

Unknown

Due Process

Fair Hearings

Program
Development

Funding

Mediation

Outcomes

Fair Hearings

Time Consuming

Strained
Relationships

Loser/Winner

Case Precedence

Directives

What it really comes down
to...



Legal...
Looking at it through a
different lens



- **Autistic Individuals are 7 times more likely to encounter police**
- **50% of parents of individuals with Autism fear that their child will have an encounter with Law Enforcement**
- **Children and Adults with Autism are 7 times more likely to have interactions with first responders than typical peers**
- **Bullying**
 - 30% of all teens (typical/neurotypical) are involved in bullying
 - Teachers report a higher incidence rate than reported by students
- **At risk for being taken advantage of...**

- 65% of parents reported that their children with Asperger's syndrome had been victimized by peers in some way within the past year
- 47% reported that their children had been hit by peers or siblings
- 50% reported them to be scared by their peers
- 9% were attacked by a gang and hurt in the private parts
- 12% indicated their child had never been invited to a birthday party
- 6% were almost always picked last for teams
- 3% ate alone at lunch every day

Source: *Issues in Comprehensive Pediatric Nursing* (2009)





Types of Bullying

- **MANIPULATIVE:** Where a child is coerced and controlled
- **CONDITIONAL FRIENDSHIP:** Friendship alternated with bullying behavior
- **EXPLOITIVE:** Features of a child's condition are used to bully via technology/social media

Forms of Bullying



- Verbal aggression including derogatory comments, name-calling, and taunting
- Social exclusion or isolation
- Physical aggression such as hitting, kicking, shoving, and spitting
- Spreading lies and false rumors
- Having money or other things taken or damaged by the aggressor
- Being threatened or being forced to do things by the aggressor
- Racial bullying
- Sexual bullying
- Cyber bullying (via cell phone or Internet)

Food for thought....



Legal issues occur at all ages and in all environments



- Autism Advocates and Law Enforcement Professionals-**Recognizing and Reducing Risk Situations for People With Autism Spectrum Disorders**

Checklist



AUTISM ELOPEMENT ALERT FORM

PERSON-SPECIFIC INFORMATION for FIRST RESPONDERS

Date Submitted: _____

Individual's Name: _____ (First) _____ (Middle) _____ (Last)

Address: _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Preferred Name: _____ (First) _____ (Last)

Does the individual live alone? _____

Individual's Physical Description:

____ Male ____ Female Height: _____ Weight: _____ Eye color: _____ Hair color: _____

Scars or other identifying marks: _____

Other Relevant Medical Conditions in addition to Autism (see above): _____

____ No Sense of Danger ____ Blind ____ Deaf ____ Non-Verbal ____ Mental Retardation

____ Attracted to Water ____ Prone to Seizures ____ Cognitive Impairment ____ Other

If Other, Please explain: _____

Prescription Medications needed: _____

Sensory or dietary issues, if any: _____

Cubing methods, and any additional information First Responders may need: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Emergency Contact (Parents/Guardians, Head of Household/Residence, or Care Providers): _____

Attach current photo here

Big Red Safety Toolkit | Fall 2013
a digital resource for first responders



**BE
REDY**
TO FIND A MISSING CHILD WITH AUTISM

<http://nationalautismassociation.org/docs/BigRedSafetyToolkit-FR.pdf>

Police training video



Wandering/Eloping/Missing

I have Autism



SafetyTat.com © 2009 Patent Pending



Behavior

What can we do...



Resources

- Autism Society of America
<http://www.autism-society.org/living-with-autism/how-the-autism-society-can-help/safe-and-sound/>
- National Autism Association Safety Materials
<http://awaare.nationalautismassociation.org/safety-materials/>
- AWAARE Collaboration
<http://awaare.nationalautismassociation.org/lawenforcement.htm>
- Tracking systems
 - Project Lifesaver: <http://www.projectlifesaver.org/>
 - LoJack SafetyNet: <http://www.lojacksafetynet.com>
 - Caretrak Systems: <http://www.caretrak.com>

Did Autism play a role...

